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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****APR 23 2007**Attorney Docket No. 06665LH**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Hideyuki SEIYAMA et al.
Serial No. : 10/594,910
Filed : September 29, 2006
For : VALVE DEVICE
Customer No.: 01933
Art Unit : 3747
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned
Confirm. No.: 8314

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Diane J. Hegstrom
Diane J. Hegstrom

Dated: April 23, 2007

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

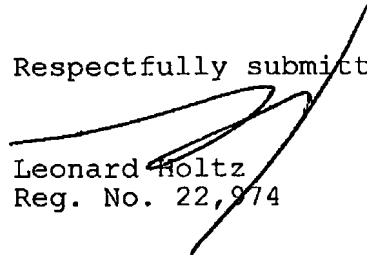
Submitted herewith is a copy of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP), which was issued in an International Application on which the present application is based. The International Search Report was submitted with the prior IDS filed September 29, 2006. Said IPRP is identified on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08B.

The documents identified and discussed in the enclosed IPRP were submitted to the USPTO with the prior IDS filed September 29, 2006. The English language IPRP constitutes an explanation of relevance of non-English documents identified therein (MPEP 609.04(a) III).

EP 990826 cited in the IPRP, and on the attached PTO/SB/08A, is a family member of WO 99/54650. USP 5,253,619 cited in the IPRP is a family member of JP 06-212922.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the present IDS and the prior IDS's filed September 29, 2006 and November 29, 2006, and that initialed copies of the Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B be returned to indicate that the documents listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: April 23, 2007

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APR 23 2007

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number		10/594,910	
				Filing Date		September 29, 2006	
				First Named Inventor		Hideyuki Seiyama	
				Group Art Unit		3747	
				Examiner Name		Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number		06665/LH	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offic ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		EP	0 990 826	A1	MITSUBISHI DENKI KK	04-05-2000		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: April 23, 2007

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PTO/SB/08B (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/594,910
				Filing Date	September 29, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Hideyuki Seiyama
				Group Art Unit	3747
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	06665/LH
OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article, title of item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published			T ²
		Copy of International Preliminary Report on Patentability, Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty for PCT/JP2005/006498, 5 sheets.			
Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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